# *Prophetical Extracts;*

PARTICULARLY

SUCH AS RELATE TO THE

*REVOLUTION* IN *FRANCE,*

AND

THE DECLINE

OF THE

*PAPAL POWER IN THE WORLD:*

SELECTED FROM

FLEMING, USHER, JERIEU, GOODWIN, GILL, LOVE, BROWN, NOX, WILLISON, MORE,

AND

DR. JOHN OWEN,

IN

*AN EXTRAORDINARY*

SERMON,

PREACHED BEFORE THE

HONOURABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

*APRIL* the 19th, 1649.

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# PROPHETICAL EXTRACTS,

*From various Miniſters relating to the preſent Times.*

## REV. ROBERT FLEMING, 1700.

"AND now, ſeeing I have marked out the time we are in at preſent, it is time alſo to put a ſtop to our Apocalyptical thoughts; ſeeing no Man can pretend, upon any juſt grounds, to calculate future times. However, ſeeing I have come ſo far, I ſhall adventure to preſent you further with ſome conjectural thoughts on this head; for I am far from the preſumption of ſome men, to give them any higher character.

"Now my conjectures ſhall relate to two things viz. to the remaining part of this vial, and to the other vials that follow this.

"And, 1. as to the remaining part of this vial, I do humbly ſuppoſe that it will come to its higheſt pitch about An. 1717, and that it will run out about the year 1794...So that there is ground to hope, that about the beginning of another ſuch century, things may again alter for the better: for I cannot but hope that ſome new mortification of the chief ſupporters of antichriſt will then happen; and perhaps the *French monarchy* may begin to be conſiderably *humbled* about that time: that whereas the preſent *French king* takes the *ſun* for his emblem and this for his motto, *Nec pluribus impar*, he may at length or rather his ſucceſſors, and the Monarchy itſelf (at leaſt before the year 1794) be forced to acknowledge, that in reſpect to neighbouring potentates, he is even *ſingulis impar*.

"But as to the expiration of this vial, I do fear it will not be until the year 1794. The reaſon of which congecture is this; that I find the pope got

a new foundation of exaltation, when Juſtinion, upon his conqueſt of Italy, left it in a great meaſure to the Pope's management, being willing to eclipſe his own authority, to advance that of this haughty prelate. Now this being in the year 552; this, by the addition of the 1260 years, reaches down to the year 1811; which, according to prophetical account is the year 1794.

## ARCHBISHOP USHER, 1655.

" THE *greateſt ſtroke upon the reformed churches is yet to come* ;---and the time of the utter ruin of the ſee of Rome *ſhall be when ſhe thinks herſelf moſt ſecure:*" One preſumed to inquire of him, what his preſent apprehenſions were concerning a very *great perſecution.* He anſwered, that a ſad perſecution would fall upon *all the Proteſtant Churches in Europe,*" Adding, I tell you, all you have yet ſeen hath been but the beginning of ſorrows, to what is yet *to come upon the Proteſtant churches of Chriſt,* who will *ere long fall under a ſharper perſecution than ever* ; therefore (ſaid he) *look you be not found in the outward court, but a worſhipper in the temple before the altar* ; *for Chriſt will meaſure all thoſe that profeſs his name, and call themſelves his people* ; and the outward worſhippers he *will leave out* to be *trodden down* by the Gentiles ; The *outward court* is the *formal Chriſtians,* whoſe religion lies in performing the outward duties of chriſtianity, without having an *inward life and power of faith uniting them to Chriſt,* and theſe God will leave to be trodden down, and ſwept away by the Gentiles ; but the worſhippers *within the temple,* and *before the altar.* God will hide in *the hollow of his hand,* and *under the ſhadow of his wings.* And this ſhall be one great difference between *this laſt,* and all the other preceding perſecutions : for in the *former* the moſt *eminent* and *ſpiritual miniſters and Chriſtians* did generally

nerally ſuffer moſt, and were moſt violently fallen upon; but in this *laſt perſecution* theſe ſhall be preſerved by God, as a ſeed to partake of that glory which ſhall *immediately follow*, and come upon the church, as ſoon as ever this ſtorm ſhall be over; for as it ſhall be the *ſharpeſt*, ſo it ſhall be the *ſhorteſt perſecution of them all*; and ſhall only take away the *groſs hypocrites* and *formal profeſſors*, but the true ſpiritual believers ſhall be preſerved till the calamity be over."

## PETER JURIEU, 1687.

"Mark that the great earthquake, *i. e.* the great alteration of affairs in the land of papacy, muſt for *that time* happen only in the *tenth part of* the city that ſhall fall."

"Now what is this *tenth part of the city*, which ſhall *fall?* In my opinion we cannot doubt that 'tis FRANCE. This Kingdom is the moſt conſiderable *part* or piece of the ten horns or ſtates which once made up the great *Babylonian city*. This *tenth part* of the *city* ſhall *fall*, with reſpect to the *papacy*; it ſhall break with *Rome*, and the *Roman religion*. One thing is certain, that the *Babylonian empire* ſhall periſh through the refuſal of obedeince by the *ten kings*, who had given their power to the *beaſt*. The thing is already come to paſs in part. The kingdoms of Sweden, Denmark, England, and ſeveral ſovereign ſtates in Germany, have withdrawn themſelves from the juriſdiction of the pope."

"But who muſt begin this laſt revolt? It is moſt probable that FRANCE ſhall. Not Spain, which as yet is plunged in *ſuperſtition*, and is as much under the tyranny of the clergy as ever. Not the emperor, who in *temporals* is ſubject to the pope, and permits that in his ſtates the archbiſhop of Strigonium ſhould teach, that the pope can *take* away the Imperial crown from him. It cannot be any coun-

try but *France*, which a long time ago hath begun to *ſhake off the yoke of Rome*.

" Theſe great events deſerve to be diſtinguiſhed from all others; for they have changed, or ſhall change, THE WHOLE FACE OF THE WORLD."

" 'Tis clear, that theſe *kings* who through ignorance or weakneſs, ſuffered *their power* to be uſurped by the *empire* of the *papacy*, ſhall take it again *ſhall eat her fleſh i. e.* ſhall enrich themſelves with her benefices and revenues, *and burn her with fire, i. e.* ſhall aboliſh the *memory* of this *Romiſh empire*. ſo that nothing but aſhes ſhall remain of it."

" The firſt thing, which ſhall be done in the *third* period of the *ſeventh* vial, is the *fall* of the *tenth* part of the *city*, *i. e.* of *the kingdom of France*, which ſhall break with the *court of Rome*, and wholly change the face of *religion* in that *kingdom*, this is the firſt action of the *vintage*.

" The *beaſt* and the falſe *prophet*, the *Pope* and his *agents* ſhall *rally* all their *forces:* but God ſhall *muſter* all his together, and give the laſt blow to *popery:* then the beaſt and the falſe *prophet* ſhall be thrown into the lake, and plunged into the bottomleſs pit: *Babylon* ſhall wholly *fall*; and it ſhall be ſaid, ſhe *is fallen*, ſhe is fallen."

Dr. THOMAS GOODWIN, 1639.

SAYS " By the tenth part of the city I underſtand a tenth of Europe;" By the earthquake a great concuſſion or ſhaking of ſtates, politic, or eccleſiaſtical.----By this earthquake's falling thus out in a tenth part of the city, this tenth part of it is ſo ſhaken that it *falls*; that is, ceaſeth to be a tenth part of the city, as belong to its juriſdiction any longer.----The effect of this earthquake, and fall of this tenth part of the city, is killing *ſeven thouſand of the names of men*.----Now, by men of name, in ſcripture is meant men of title, office and dignity

dignity.----[As in the caſe of Corah's conſpiracy,] ſo here a civil puniſhment will fall upon theſe: for having killed theſe witneſſes, themſelves are to be killed (haply) by being BEREFT OF THEIR NAMES AND TITLES, which are to be *rooted out for ever*, and condemned to perpetual forgetfulneſs."

" Now which of theſe ten kingdoms [may be intended] " The ſaints and churches of *France*, God has made a wonder unto me in all proceedings towards them, firſt and laſt; and there would ſeem ſome great and ſpecial honour reſerved for them, yet at the laſt; for it is certain, that the firſt light of the goſpel by that firſt and ſecond angel's preaching in chapter xiv. (which laid the foundation of antichriſt's ruin) was out from among them, namely thoſe of Lyons, and other places in France. And they bore and underwent the great heat of that morning of perſecution, which was as great, if not greater than any----And ſo, as that kingdom (France) had the *firſt* great ſtroke, ſo now it ſhall have the honour of having the *laſt* great ſtroke in the ruin of Rome."

DR. GILL, 1748.

" Rev. XI, 13. *And the ſame hour was there a great earthquake* [or *ſame day, and in the earthquake were ſlain of men ſeven thouſand.*

" The meaning is that in the commotions, maſſacres, tumults and wars which will be throughout the empire ſuch a number of men will be ſlain; which is either put for a greater number, a certain for an uncertain (as in Rom. xi. 4. and perhaps in reference to an account there) otherwiſe ſeven thouſand is but a ſmall number to be ſlain in battle; or as it is in the original text, " *the* NAMES of MEN 7000" now it is obſerved by ſome, that the ſmalleſt name of number belonging to men is a centurion, or captain of an hundred men; and ſuppoſing that to be meant,

meant, then ſeven thouſand names of men will imply that in an hour, or a fortnight's time, may be ſlain throughout all Europe in battles and maſſacres about 700,000 men which is a very large number: or NAMES *of men* may ſignify *men of name*, of great renown (as in Numbers xvi. 2.) and then if ſeven thouſand men of name, officers in armies ſhould be ſlain, how great muſt be the number of common ſoldiers? Some thought that ECCLESIASTICAL DIGNITIES, or men diſtinguiſhed by NAMES and TITLES, ſuch as cardinals, archbiſhops, biſhops, prieſts, and the whole rabble of the antichriſtian hierarchy, which will now fall and be utterly demoliſhed, are intended."

## CHRISTOPHER LOVE, 1651.

" GREAT earthquakes and commotions by ſea and land ſhall come in the year of God 1779.---- GREAT WARS in Germany and AMERICA in 1780. ----The deſtruction of popery, or BABYLON'S FALL, in the year 1790---God will be known by many in the year 1795. This will produce a great man----The ſtars will wander, and the moon turn as blood, in 1800----Africa, Aſia, and America will tremble in 1803----A great earthquake over all the world, in 1805----God will be univerſally known by all. Then a general reformation, and peace for ever, when the people ſhall learn war no more.

## ARCHBISHOP BROWN, 1551.

" THERE is a *new* fraternity of late ſprung up, who call themſelves *Jeſuits*, which will *deceive* many, who are much after the ſcribes and phariſees' manner: amongſt the Jews, they ſhall ſtrive to aboliſh the truth, and ſhall come very near to do it; for theſe ſorts will turn themſelves into ſeveral forms, with the heathen, an heatheniſt, with atheiſts an atheiſt, with Jews, a Jew, and with the

the reformers, a reformade, purpoſely to know your intentions, your minds, your hearts, and your inclinations, and thereby bring you at laſt to be like the *fool* that *ſaid in his heart, there is no God.* Theſe ſhall ſpread over the whole *world,* ſhall be admitted into the *councils of Princes* and they never the wiſer; charming of them; yea, making your princes reveal their hearts, and the ſecrets therein unto them, and yet they not perceive it; which will happen from falling from the law of God; and by winking at their ſins; yet in the end, God, to juſtify his law, ſhall ſuddenly cut off this ſociety, even *by the hands of thoſe who have moſt ſuccoured them,* and made uſe of them; ſo that at the end they ſhall become *odious to all nations:* they ſhall be worſe than Jews, having no reſting place upon earth.

REV. JOHN KNOX, 1572.

" SENTENCE is pronounced in Scotland againſt that murderer, the *King* of *France,* and God's vengeance ſhall never depart from him, nor his houſe, but his name ſhall remain an *execration* to poſterity; and *none that ſhall come of his loins,* ſhall enjoy that kingdom in peace and quietneſs, unleſs repentance prevent God's judgment." The French Ambaſſador, being told of the Prediction, applied to the Regent and Council for an interdiction but was refuſed. See his Life.

MR. JOHN WILLISON, 1742.

" Before antichriſt's fall, one of the ten kingdoms which ſupported the beaſt ſhall undergo a marvellous Revolution, Rev. xi. 13. *The ſame hour there was a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell.* By which *tenth part,* is to be underſtood one of the ten kingdoms into which the great city Romiſh Babylon was divided: this many take to be the kingdom of *France,* it being the *tenth* and laſt

of

of the kingdoms as to the time of its riſe, and that which gave to Rome the denomination of a beaſt with ten horns, and alſo it being the only one of the ten that was never conquered ſince its riſe. However unlikely this and other prophecied events may appear at the time, yet the almighty hand of the only wiſe God can ſoon bring them about when leaſt expected.

DR. H. MORE, 1663.

" ON the MYSTERY *of* INIQUITY contained in the kingdom of Antichriſt.

" An *earthquake* ſignifies political commotions and change of affairs, is obvious to any one to note; and that whore of Babylon is nothing but the body of the idolatrous clergy in the empire, who appertain to the ſeventh or laſt head of the beaſt, which is an head of blaſphemy, as well as the ſix firſt, that is to ſay, an idolatrous head. Whence we may underſtand what is meant by theſe *ſeven thouſand names of men*; for neither ſeven nor thouſand ſignify any determinate number, but only the nature or property of theſe *names of men* that are ſaid to be ſlain, namely, that they are TITLES DIGNITIES, OFFICES or ORDERS of men belonging to the ſtate of Chriſtendom.

*FINIS.*

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*** *The Works of* R. FLEMING, *and the* LIFE *and* PROPHECIES *of* ARCHBISHOP USHER, *may be had of the Publiſher.*